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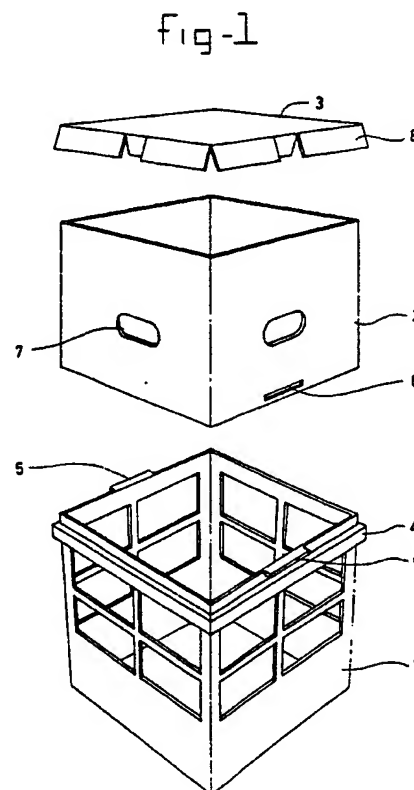
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54 Packaging for flowers.

57 Packaging for flowers comprising a crate (1) and a box (2) to be placed on this crate with the base (3) at the top. The said box base (3) is removable or hingeable. This packaging is suitable for dry and wet packing of upright flowers. In the case of wet packing, the packaging cannot leak. By the easy removal or hinging of the box base, the packed flowers can be displayed from the top and this base can be replaced in the closed position without any problem. By removing the box, the tightly packed flowers will fan out, so that transfer to a bucket is not necessary.



EP 0 311 174 A1

Packaging for flowers

The invention relates to packaging for flowers.

Flowers can be transported both wet and dry over large distances provided they are packed in a suitable packaging. The disadvantage of wet packing is that growth can continue if the cooling is not well controlled. A disadvantage of dry packing is that drying out can take place and that the flowers must be unpacked rapidly and placed in water on arrival. A known wet packaging is a bucket or watertight box in an outer box. The flowers can be displayed by removing the entire outer box. In the case of a watertight inner box, there are two possibilities: one in which cardboard is coated with wax, and one in which cardboard is coated with plastic. The first possibility leads to leakage at the folds and the second possibility is expensive. All known packagings have the drawback that the flowers have to be transferred on arrival in the shop or flower hall.

The aim of the invention is to provide a relatively inexpensive packaging for upright packing of flowers, which is suitable for dry and wet packing and which, in the case of wet packing, cannot leak; furthermore, it is an objective of the invention to design this packaging so that the packed flowers can be displayed from the top by the simple removal or hinging of a part of the packaging and that the part can be replaced in the closed position without any problem. Finally, the packaging according to the invention is intended to enable, by removal of a part thereof, the flowers to be displayed to the public in a shop or flower stall without their having to be transferred to a bucket or the like.

According to the invention, the packaging is characterized for this purpose by a crate and a box to be placed on this crate with the base at the top, the box base being removable or hingeable.

The crate, which usually is made of plastic and optionally has openings in the walls, has, just below its upper edge, a ridge or edge on which the bottom edge of the upside down box of cardboard coated with wax rests. It is not entirely precluded that the box is provided with an edge or ridge on which the upper edge of the crate grips.

It is possible to seal the crate and box with one another solely with adhesive tape. However, it is better to also employ separate locking devices for the detachable locking of box and crate, for example, by using projecting lips and openings intended to receive these.

To make the packaging easy to handle, the box is provided with hand-grip openings.

The crate is preferably nestable in an equivalent crate.

The box base should be connected to the box in a hingeable manner. However, it is better to make the box base wholly removable and to provide it with folded over projecting edges which can be fixed on the box by adhesive tape.

The invention will now be illustrated in more detail with the aid of the figures, in which an example of an embodiment is shown.

Figure 1 shows a perspective view of a packaging in the dismantled state.

Figure 2 shows a perspective view of this packaging in the assembled state.

The packaging shown comprises a plastic crate 1 and a cardboard box 2, of which the base 3 is loose.

The crate has a rectangular cross-section and the cross-section surface area decreases slightly from top to bottom, so that nesting of crates is possible. An upwardly projecting ridge 4, on which, as Figure 2 shows, the bottom edge of the box 2 can rest, is provided just below the top edge.

The box 2, which, for example, can be made watertight with wax, has a rectangular cross-section such that it can be pushed over the top edge of the crate until the lower edge of the box rests on the ridge 4.

The crate is also provided with two outwardly projecting lips 5, which can grip in openings 6 of the box to enable box and crate to be detachably locked to one another. In practice, the fixing of crate and box is reinforced by adhesive tape. The box also has a hand-grip opening 7 in each of its side faces.

The loose base 3, which in fact forms the top of the packaging, is also made of cardboard and has projecting folded edges 8 which can be fixed to the box with adhesive tape.

The packaging is filled with flowers while the box 2 is in position on the crate 1 without box base 3. After filling, the base 3 is firmly fixed on the box 2. The base 3 can temporarily be removed at the auction or the like to display the flowers from the top.

In the shop or flower hall the box 2 is removed and the tightly packed flowers fan out. Transfer to a bucket is not necessary.

In connection with saving of material and good cooling, the side walls of the crate 1 are provided with openings 9. A completely solid-walled crate is, however, entirely possible.

The box 2 can be of various heights, depending on the length of the flowers to be packed.

The lid 3 can be of various materials and shapes, depending on the manner of closure. A

profile, which prevents the crate shifting on the lid, can also be provided in or on the lid.

Within the scope of the invention, various modifications of the packaging shown and described are possible.

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Claims

1. Packaging for flowers characterised by a crate (1) and a box (2) to be placed on this crate with the base (3) at the top, the box base (3) being removable or hingeable.

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2. Packaging according to Claim 1, characterized in that one part of the assembly of crate (1) and box (2) is provided with a ridge or edge (4) on which the end edge of the other can grip.

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3. Packaging according to one of the preceding claims, characterized by locking devices for the detachable locking of box and crate.

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4. Packaging according to Claim 3, characterized in that the locking devices consist of projecting lips (5) and openings (6) intended to receive these.

5. Packaging according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the crate is made of plastic and the box of a cardboard able to withstand high concentrations of water.

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6. Packaging according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the box is provided with hand-grip openings (7).

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7. Packaging according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the crate (1) is nestable in an equivalent crate.

8. Packaging according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the completely removable box base (3) has projecting edges (8) and possibly has a profile on the top.

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fig-1

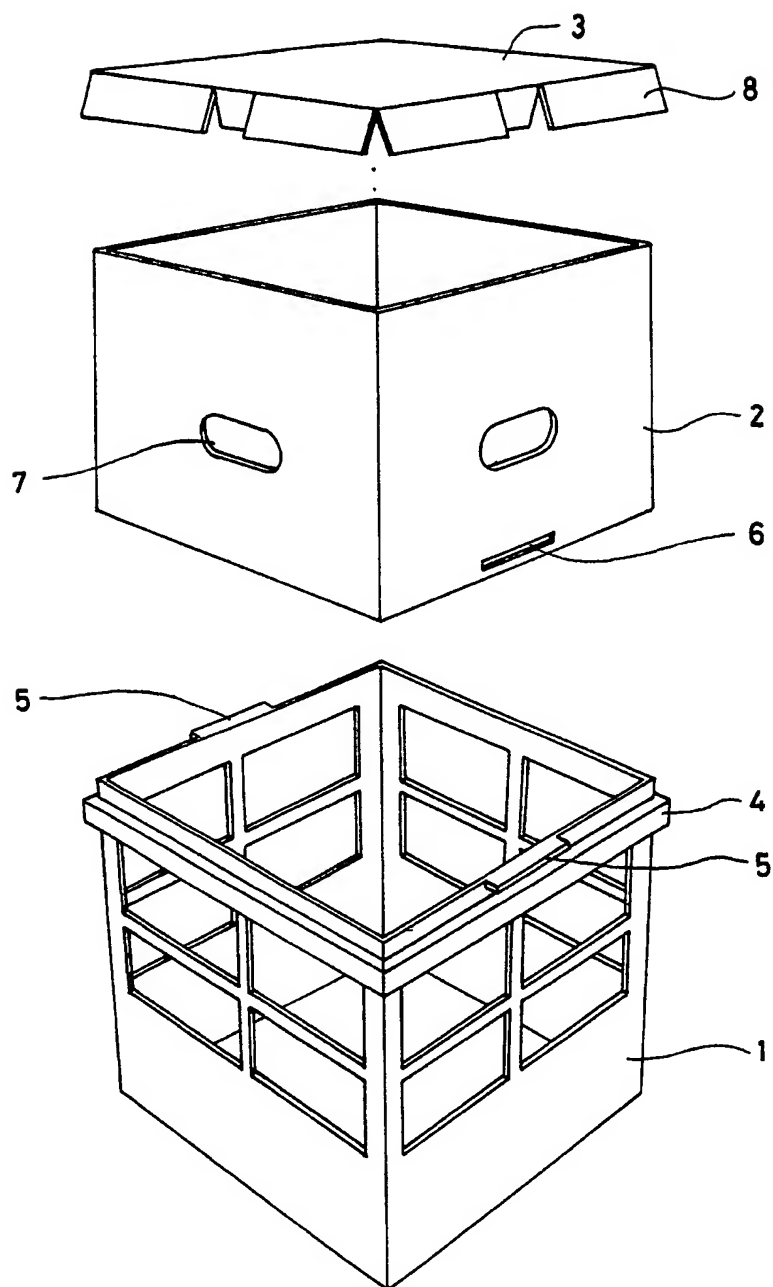
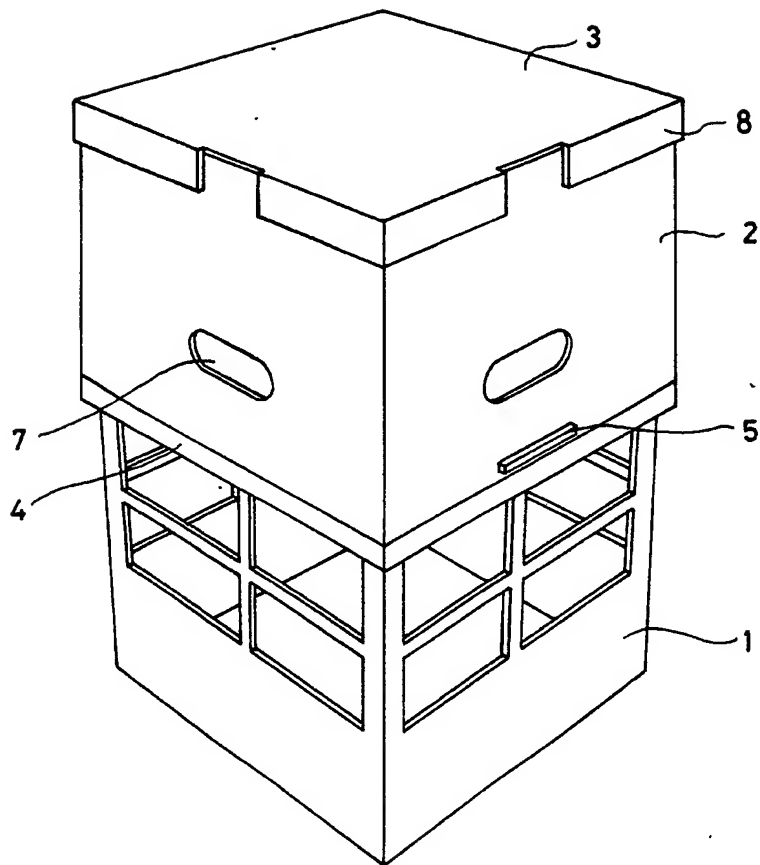


fig-2





DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
A	EP-A-0 164 795 (VAN MEURS) * Whole document * ---	1,3,6	B 65 D 85/50
A	US-A-3 127 011 (WEDDLE) * Whole document * ---	1,8	
A	FR-A-2 340 260 (HENDRICKX) * Whole document * -----	1,5-7	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
			B 65 D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 12-01-1989	Examiner MARTIN A.
<div>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</div> <div>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</div> <div>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</div>			

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